

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Western District of New York

Further inquiries: (716) 843-5814

138 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

November 3, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. MARY MEINHOLD

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that Mary Meinhold Converse, age 42, of St. Augustine, Florida, formerly of West Seneca, New York, pled guilty before Hon. William M. Skretny, United States District Judge to one count in a felony Indictment, charging her with mail fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341, carrying a maximum penalty of 30 years imprisonment, a fine of \$1,000,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Gretchen L. Wylegala, who handled the case, stated that the defendant, who worked at Visteon Climate Control, West Seneca, New York, embezzled over \$120,000 from May until August, 2001, by taking customer payments mailed to Visteon, and depositing them into a personal bank account.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

Sentencing is scheduled for March 16, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in front of Hon. William M. Skretny, United States District Court Judge.